

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed on March 17, 2009. Applicants respectfully traverse all objections, rejections, and assertions made by the Examiner. Claims 1, 3, 4, 12, 18, and 22-25 have been canceled, and claims 2, 5, 11, 13, 16, and 19 have been amended. Claims 2, 5-11, 13-17, and 19-21 are pending. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating claims 4-11, 13-15, and 18-21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 4 has been incorporated into independent claim 2, claim 13 has been amended to include the elements of claims 2, 3, and 12, and claim 16 has been amended to include the elements of claim 18. Independent claims 2, 13, and 16 are thus believed to be allowable.

#### **Claim Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 103**

Claims 1 and 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salazar et al. (US 6,451,023) in view of Simonson (US 2003/0083688). Claims 2, 3, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salazar et al. (US 6,451,023) in view of Simonson (US 2003/0083688). Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejections. However, in the interest of advancing prosecution, claim 1 has been canceled, and pending independent claims 2, 13, and 16 have been amended to include elements of claims that were indicated as being allowable over the prior art. Applicants submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of

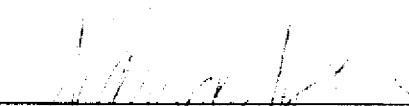
Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik E. EMSTAD et al.

By their attorney,

Date: 5/6/11

  
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